TRENDS

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ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, October 18, 1984 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended October 13 totaled an estimated 17.1 billion ton-miles, 4.3 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative traffic volume for the first 41 weeks of 1984 was an estimated 737.1 billion ton-miles, 13.6 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended October 13 totaled 380,937, down 4.8 percent from last year, and 4.0 percent below the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were down 14.2 percent in the East and 1.5 percent in the West. There was virtually no change in the South.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1983, 13 of the 21 commodity groups declined. Metallic ores showed a gain of 3,270 cars (19.1 percent). Thirteen of the 21 commodity groups decreased from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended October 6 totaled 58,305 cars, up 14.8 percent from the corresponding week of 1983, and 96,572 trailers and/or containers, 7.9 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 40 weeks of the year was 2,045,357 cars, 15.1 percent higher than last year, and 3,518,124 trailers and/or containers, up 14.2 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 10/13/84:

	Loadings in Week ended Oct. 13, 1984		Change from Corresponding Week 1983			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	23,984	D	8,580	26.3	D	3,103	12.9
Other farm products	4,375	D	1,741	28.5	I	644	14.7
Metallic ores	20,406	I	3,270	19.1	I	2,312	11.3
Coal	97,940	D	11,820	10.8	D	10,579	10.8
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	13,724	I	1,675	13.9	D	133	1.0
Nonmetallic minerals	11,473	D	2,610	18.5	D	780	6.8
Grain mill products	10,431	D	1,577	13.1	D	53	0.5
Food and kindred products	11,129	D	1,120	9.1	D	29	0.3
Primary forest products	12,936	D	1,596	11.0	D	1,010	7.8
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,051	D	275	3.8	D	9	0.1
Pulp, paper and allied products	14,544	I	214	1.5	D	544	3.7
Chemicals and allied products	24,461	I	77	0.3	I	112	0.5
Petroleum products	4,897	I	358	7.9	I	122	2.5
Stone, clay and glass products	11,422	D	79	0.7	D	322	2.8
Coke	5,346	I	603	12.7	I	299	5.6
Metals and products	7,969	D	840	9.5	D	490	6.1
Motor vehicles and equipment	20,257	I	863	4.4	I	24	0.1
Waste and scrap materials	9,214	D	30	0.3	I	306	3.3
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	7,932	D	774	8.9	I	65	0.8
All other carloads	61,267	I	4,903	8.7	D	2,492	4.1
LCL traffic	179	D	147	45.1	D	18	10.1
Total Cars Loaded	380,937	D	19,226	4.8	D	15,678	4.0
Corresponding week of 1983	400,163						

	1984	1983	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (41 weeks)	16,285,271	14,791,722	I 10.1
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
40 weeks ended October 6	720.0	630.9	I 14.1
Week ended October 13,	17.1	17.9	D 4.3
41 weeks cumulative	737.1	648.8	I 13.6

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